

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1. (currently amended) A method for ~~providing driver-independent, printer-independent page manipulation options in a printing system~~ creating a page-independent spool file index, said method comprising:

 ~~reading~~ creating a spool data file for a document;

 creating a Page-Independent Spool File (PISF) index file ~~from~~ based on
 data in said spool data file, wherein said PISF index file reorganizes
 document-wide, persistent, page formatting data in said spool data file
 into independent units corresponding to each page of said document;

 ~~and~~

 ~~allowing user manipulation of said PISF index file, after creation of said~~
 ~~index file, to effect document page format manipulation options; and~~
 ~~accessing said PISF index file to execute a print job.~~
2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~wherein said spool data file is a~~
 ~~Microsoft Windows Job Description File~~ further comprising providing a user
 interface for user manipulation of said PISF index file, after creation of said index
 file, to effect document page format manipulation options.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said manipulating
comprises re-ordering of pages in said document PISF index file ~~comprises an~~
~~independent record of each page in said spool data file.~~
4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said user manipulation is
performed via a spooler user interface.
5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said PISF index file is
created by a process that is independent of the process that created said spool data
file.
6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said PISF index file is
created by a modified print processor.
7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said PISF index file is
stored independently of said spool data file.
8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said PISF index file is
created by a print system component other than the component that creates said
spool data file.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said manipulation of said PISF index file comprises changing collation options.

10. (currently amended) A method for ~~providing~~ performing document formatting options in a printing system, said method comprising:

~~creating a Page Independent Spool File (PISF) index file; and~~
~~manipulating said a PISF index file to effect document formatting options~~
~~by user input after creation of said PISF index file, wherein said PISF~~
~~index file comprises document-wide, persistent, page formatting data from~~
~~a spool data file that has been reorganized into independent units~~
~~corresponding to each page of a document; and~~
~~accessing said manipulated PISF index file to execute a print job.~~

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein said ~~creating, said~~
~~manipulating and said accessing are accomplished with a print processor~~
manipulating comprises changing the order of a page in said document.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein said ~~creating, said~~
~~manipulating and said accessing are accomplished through a spooler~~ manipulating
comprises changing collation options for said document.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein said ~~creating, said~~ manipulating ~~and said accessing are~~ is accomplished through a print assistant between a driver and a printer.
14. (currently amended) A method for ~~adding~~ obtaining page-independent print data ~~in document formatting capability to~~ a printing system, said method comprising:
- reading a PISF index file, wherein said PISF index file comprises
 - document-wide, persistent, page formatting data from a spool data file that
 - has been reorganized into independent units corresponding to each page of
 - a document; and
 - accessing data indexed in said independent units to form a print job.
 - ~~providing a print system component with the~~
 - ~~initiating a print job for a document;~~
 - ~~creating a PISF index file;~~
 - ~~modifying said PISF index file through user input, from said print~~
 - ~~processor after creation of said PISF index file; and~~
 - ~~accessing said PISF index file, from said print processor, to obtain~~
 - ~~document formatting information for printing.~~

15. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein said PISF index file is produced by a print processor.
16. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein said PISF index file is produced by a spooler.
17. (original)The method of claim 14 wherein said PISF index file is produced by a print system component in a print system between a driver and a printer.
18. (currently amended) A printing system with driver-independent, printer-independent document formatting, said system comprising:
- ~~a print processor comprising:~~
 - a reader for reading a spool data file for a document;
 - an indexer for converting document-wide, persistent, page
formatting data in said spool data file into independent, page-related units,
thereby creating a page-independent spool file (PISF) index file;
 - ~~a modifier for modifying said index file to effect document~~
~~formatting options in response to user input wherein said modifying~~
~~occurs after creation of said index file; and~~
 - ~~a reader for accessing said manipulated index file to execute a~~
~~modified print job.~~

19. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium comprising instructions for ~~driver-independent, printer-independent document formatting creating a page-independent spool file (PISF) index file~~, said instructions comprising the acts of:
- reading a spool data file for a document; and
 - converting document-wide, persistent, page formatting data in said spool data file into independent, page-related units, thereby creating a (PISF) index file.
 - ~~creating a page-independent index file;~~
 - ~~manipulating said index file to effect document formatting options after creation of said index file; and~~
 - ~~accessing said manipulated index file to execute a print job.~~

20. (canceled)